GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1288
ANSWERED ON:15.07.2004
PROTECTED MONUMENTS IN DELHI
Jha Shri Raghunath

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the protected monuments in Delhi/New Delhi;

(b) whether under the provisions of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sties and Remains Act, 1958 and Rules thereunder, no structure, howsoever, small or temporary, can be allowed to come up within the prohibited and regulated areas of the protected monument;

(c) whether the provisions of the aforesaid Act and Rules are being violated with impunity and large scale unauthorized construction have come up within the prohibited and regulated areas of these protected monuments and whether it is the duty of the ASI/area Deputy Commissioner, GNCT of Delhi to remove all structures from the prohibited and regulated areas of the protected monument; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to ensure the removal of all the structures from prohibited and regulated areas of the protected monument?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY)

(a)The list of centrally protected monuments in Delhi is at Annexure.

(b)As per the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958 and Rules, 1959 thereunder no construction or mining operation is permitted within the 100 metres declared as prohibited area of the centrally protected monuments. However, in the area further beyond 200 metres of the prohibited area declared as regulated area, construction or mining operation could be undertaken after obtaining licence from the Director General, Archaeological Survey of India.

(c)There are considerable number of cases which have come to the notice of Archaeological Survey of India in respect of unauthorized constructions in the prohibited and regulated area of the centrally protected monuments in Delhi. As per the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958 and Rules 1959, the Central Government has the powers to issue orders to the owner or the occupier of unauthorized building in the prohibited or regulated area of the protected monuments to remove such buildings within a specified period. In case the owners or occupier fails to comply with the orders, the Central Government may direct the District Magistrate to cause the unauthorized buildings removed.

(d)The Archaeological Survey of India has taken steps in accordance with the provisions contained in the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958 and Rules, 1959 for removal of unauthorized structures from the prohibited and regulated areas by issuing notices from the competent authority to the erring owners, by lodging FIR with the police and legal actions have been taken wherever necessary, besides encroachments have been removed from the protected area of the monuments(as per court orders).